

Appl. No. 10/064,357
Amdt. dated July 20, 2005
Reply to Office action of May 02, 2005

REMARKS

1. Rejection of claims 14, 16, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shirai et al. (US 5,550,452):

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Claim 14 is amended to include all limitations of claim 15, which is accordingly canceled. Claim 14 is also amended to provide antecedent basis for the housing recited in claim 18 and implied in claim 19. No new matter is entered.

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Arguments for the amended claim 14 are presented in the next section. Claims 16 and 17 are dependent and should be allowed if claim 14 is allowed.

15 **2. Rejection of claims 1-6, 15, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shirai:**

20 Shirai teaches a charger for devices like game machines, electric toothbrushes, etc. The invention of claim 1-6 teaches a charger for a pointing device (mouse).

One substantial difference between claim 1 and Shirai is that claim 1 recites a device that allows for *mouse-like movement during charging*. That is, the wireless pointing device
25 comprises a second induction coil of an effective cross-sectional area *smaller* than an effective cross-sectional area of a first induction coil installed in the flat-plate (mouse surface). The corresponding

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limitations of claim 1 are such:

5 a first induction coil installed corresponding to
a position of the flat-plate for transforming an
electrical power of a power source to an induction
magnetic field;

10 a second induction coil installed inside the
housing corresponding to a position of the contact
plane for receiving the induction magnetic field
through the contact plane in a magnetic induction
manner, an effective cross-sectional area of the
second induction coil being smaller than an
effective cross-sectional area of the first
15 induction coil;

The relative sizes of the induction coils allow the invention
to solve two problems at once: charging the mouse and providing
a surface on which to move the mouse. A beneficial outcome of
20 this is that "whether users are moving the wireless mouse
10 or not moving the wireless mouse 10, the wireless mouse
10 also can be charged by electromagnetic induction"
(paragraph 21). A user never has to remember to place
the mouse in a charging unit or separate charging
25 position, since the mouse is continuously being charged.
In this way, the present invention helps forgetful people
in charging the mouse while still allowing the
flexibility of a wireless mouse.

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5 Shirai does not teach that the peripheral coil (secondary coil 16) is smaller than the power coil (primary coil 14). Shirai also does not suggest this since each of Shirai's embodiments show lateral movement limiting mechanical connections, e.g. secondary casing 24 sliding into first case 22 in Figs. 1A & 1B. There is no reason why Shirai would make the coils of different size/effective area. Moreover, Shirai does not aim to help forgetful users at all.

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To further highlight this difference, claims 20 and 21 are introduced. These claims merely recite the disclosed relative sizes of the pointing device and the flat-plate (in Figs. 1 & 2, for example). No new matter is entered. The limitations of claims 15 20 and 21 are already implied in claim 1, so the applicant believes that a new search or additional consideration should not be necessary.

20 In a similar respect to the differing coil sizes, the magnet fixers of claims 3, 4, and 14 (formerly in claim 15) are also unobvious improvements over the cited art. The magnet fixers allow the peripheral device (e.g. a mouse) to be moved across the surface of the flat-plate (base), yet also allow for a "home" position of optimum charging.

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The Examiner contends that modifying Shirai to have magnet fixers is obvious. The applicant provides three arguments why this is not obvious. First, Shirai aims to solve the problem of stray

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metal parts (e.g. a clip) being recognized as a load and thus causing the power source unit 12 to uselessly output power, only to be lost as heat (col.1 lines 31-37). Hence, Shirai teaches vertically moving connection mechanisms (e.g. depressible member 78 of Figs.1A & 1B) that keep any stray metal outside the most effective range of the primary coil 14. Since the urging members 106 are needed to keep the depressible member 78 away from the primary coil 14. Where a magnet fixer could positioned while still allowing the urging members 106 to act as they should is not suggested by Shirai and not obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Second, the location of the magnet fixers relative to the induction coils 14 and 16 would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. If the magnets are placed near the primary coil 14, they might have the same power-wasting effect as a stray metal part. Such difficulties for a designer are not conducive to obviousness.

Third, Examiner suggests that magnet fixers are obvious given the engaging projection 104, however, the engaging projection 104 is not primarily a fixer, rather its purpose is to house the magnetic core 84. Modifying (or replacing) the engaging projection 104 to have a magnet fixer that does not magnetically interfere with the magnet core 84 is not suggested nor is this within the capability of one of ordinary skill in the art.

Essentially, the applicant contends that Shirai's device is

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incompatible with magnet fixers. Hence, the applicant requests
that the rejection of claims 3, 4, and 14 be withdrawn or that
the Examiner point out how/where magnet fixers would work
properly in Shirai's device while still retaining the
5 power-saving benefits of such device.

In addition, claim 22 is introduced to further refine the
invention recited in claim 14 with respect to the magnet fixers.
No new matter is entered.

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Reconsideration of claims 1-6, 14, and 18 is respectfully
requested in view of the arguments and amendments made. Claims
2-6, 16-18, and 20-22 are dependent and should be allowed if
claims 1 and 14 are allowed.

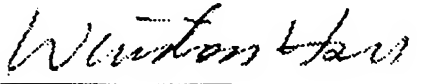
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Respectfully submitted,



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